Public submission

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Topic 1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW

Logging of native forests is not sustainable, it is a threat not only to our precious environment and our native flora and fauna but it is reducing carbon storage and making our forests more prone to fire, increased weed growth and waterway pollution.

Topic 2. Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values

Forests cool our lands, clean our air, provide homes for our forest species and are important for recreation and Aboriginal cultural and historic education.

NSW has 269 nationally listed threatened forest species, it is essential that we stop logging their habitat.

Topic 3. Demand for timber products, particularly as relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail

There are other sustainable products that can replace native forest timbers and we can meet our needs from existing plantations. How we can justify 87% of native forest timber exported as wood chips is beyond belief.

Topic 4. The future of softwood and hardwood plantations and the continuation of Private Native Forestry in helping meet timber supply needs

Plantations already supply over 90% of Australia's log production. A larger amount of logs obtained from hardwood plantations needs to be increased rather than being exported as woodchips. Ceasing native forest logging will be an incentive for selective logging of speciality hardwoods from private forests.

Topic 5. The role of State Forests in maximising the delivery of a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models

The economic benefits from stopping logging are greater water yields, tourism and carbon storage. Forestry Corporation is making a loss, we should not be paying to have our forests and native species habitat destroyed or degraded. Public forests are of greater economic benefit to our communities.

Topic 6. Opportunities to realise carbon and biodiversity benefits and support carbon and biodiversity markets, and mitigate and adapt to climate change risks, including the greenhouse gas emission impacts of different uses of forests and assessment of climate change risks to forests

Healthy biodiverse forests are an important contribution to meeting our climate targets. Native forest logging in NSW releases the equivalent tonnes of carbon to the annual emissions of

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840,000 cars. Stopping logging will enable forests to regain their lost carbon and reduce the risk of increasing fires and droughts due to climate heating.